

# Tea Polyphenol Extracts as a Natural Dietary Supplement to Current Treatments of HIV/AIDS

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## Introduction

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) belongs to the *Lentivirus* genus, a member of the Retroviridae family of enveloped, single-stranded, positive-sense RNA viruses that replicate characteristically in a host cell through the process of reverse transcription. HIV is the etiological agent of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) which weakens the human immune system including CD4<sup>+</sup> T lymphocytes, monocytes, macrophages and dendritic cells [1]. Worldwide, more than 35 million people are thought to live with HIV [2], of whom 69% reside in sub-Saharan Africa. One adult in every 20 in the United States is estimated to be infected with HIV [3].

substantiate or refute the putative role of tea polyphenols in the therapy of HIV/AIDS patients.

## Conflict of Interests

The author does not have any conflict of interest to declare.

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